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United States Department of State

Washington, D. C. 20520

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January 26, 1983

BRIEFING MEMORANDUM  
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TO: The Secretary *PW*

FROM: EA - Paul Wolfowitz

SUBJECT: Your January-February Trip to East Asia -  
Scope Paper

Your East Asian trip is composed of three parts:

Visits to Japan, China and Korea where you will discuss global, regional and bilateral issues of mutual concern with their leaders.

Chairing the East Asian Chiefs of Mission conference in Hong Kong where you will brief them on your trip in the context of broader US policies and hear their views on handling our Asian problems.

Call on Hong Kong Governor Youde, which is primarily a courtesy call but will give you an opportunity to get an update on Sino-British talks on Hong Kong's future.

GENERAL THEMES AND OBJECTIVES

The trip to Northeast Asia, together with your trip to ASEAN countries in June and the ANZUS ministerial meeting in July, will demonstrate the importance which the Reagan Administration accords to the Asia-Pacific area and to enhancing our relations with our allies and friends there. This trip will also permit you to explain the steadfastness of US policies, particularly as they affect Asian countries. Your principal objectives will be:

1. To advance further the favorable economic and security developments which have permitted the basically peaceful progress in Asia in recent years.
2. To demonstrate US determination to maintain its own security role and to assist the defense capabilities of allied and friendly countries in the face of threats from the USSR and North Korea.

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3. To discuss some common strategies for handling global and regional problems and to obtain Asian support for US policies.
4. To discuss global economic problems and to enlist support for measures speeding world economic recovery and the avoidance of protectionism.
5. To make progress toward a solution of bilateral problems which would permit the improvement of relations thereby enhancing the US role in Asia.
6. To show the President's concern with public diplomacy and building democratic institutions.

## SPECIFIC THEMES AND OBJECTIVES

### Japan (January 30 - February 2)

Your Japan visit comes at a key moment. In the past two years the emphasis in the public mind has been on our differences over trade and defense spending rather than on the positive aspects of our overall relationship with a major world partner. Nakasone shares our vision and hence wishes to move on the two irritants. Your objectives are:

- To convey the US view that Japan should play a more active world role commensurate with its economic strength and its unique role as a developed Asian nation.
- To stress the importance of resolving trade problems.
- To promote Japan's assuming more of its own defense responsibility.
- To explore ways to improve the US-Japan consultative process to implement our broadly-based partnership.
- To explore possibilities for additional Japanese economic assistance to third countries.

### China (February 2-6)

Your China visit is of great symbolic and substantive importance. It was proposed last July by President Reagan as a means of closing a difficult chapter in US-China relations and resuming a constructive course; and it continues to be viewed by the Chinese as a key event, needed to give the relationship renewed momentum. Your objectives are:

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- To demonstrate continuity, perseverance, and effectiveness of US global policies.
- To exchange views on major regional and world issues.
- To convey, on behalf of the President, the importance we place on China and on putting our relations back on a more stable, realistic footing.
- To place Chinese grievances, real and imagined, in the perspective of the overall relationship, making clear that, through discussions based on mutual respect and realism, we can resolve many problems over time while reducing misunderstandings in areas where we disagree.

## Korea (February 6-8)

Our overriding interest in Korea is to preserve the security of the ROK in the face of a formidable threat from the North. The security relationship, and our ability to assist the ROK's own defense effort, are a major preoccupation of Korean leaders and will figure prominently in your talks. However, Korean economic strength and its growing international role have added new dimensions to our relationship, and these too will be reflected in your Seoul stop. Your fundamental objectives are:

- To underscore our commitment to Korean security, and our determination to help meet ROK defense requirements.
- To encourage further steps toward a liberalization of Korea's political system and greater respect for human rights.
- To express our support for ROK positions on North-South Korea issues and for its efforts to develop a more substantial international role.
- To emphasize our commitment to an open international trading system and urge Korean help in this endeavor by further liberalizing their own domestic market.

## Chiefs of Mission Conference in Hong Kong (February 8-10)

The Chiefs of Mission conference will bring together the Ambassadors, the Charge in Laos and the Hong Kong Consul General in an annual meeting. Admiral Long and other defense representatives will be present. The conference is a key

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aspect of our efforts to have policies in East Asia and the Pacific viewed in the context of our overall policies. Your objectives are:

-- To put your recently concluded Northeast Asian trip in the broader context of our overall policies.

-- To hear our ambassadors' views of the state of our relations with the Asian countries and to obtain their suggestions for strengthening our policies.

## Conversation with the Hong Kong Governor (February 9)

Your stop in Hong Kong, chosen for its overall convenience, is primarily to chair the Chiefs of Mission conference. However, you will have a private conversation and lunch with Governor Youde. There may be efforts by the press to cast your visit as a show of US support for the continuation of Hong Kong's current status. Your objectives are:

-- To avoid giving the impression that the US is taking sides on the issue of Hong Kong's future.

-- To listen to Governor Youde's views on the Sino-British negotiations and indicate US interest in the stability and prosperity of Hong Kong.

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